

And when you receive this I wish you would give
me its history in epitome & any thing & every thing
you may know in relation either to the members
either of the Ch. or of the cong?

When do you expect to be wised? I
was at Jamton about 3 mos. since & at the house of Mr
J. & saw your lady ~~and~~ spoke with her of you but
did not know until two or three hours afterwards that
she was the intended Mrs P. When you see her again
please remember ~~me~~ to her. In haste & affectionately
Yours A. T. Hopkins.

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Rev. Amos A. Phelps
Hopkinton
Mass



Wish



Mrs J. Hopkins
Dorchester
Feb 10 1831

and myself require me to adopt the conclusion
which I have already made known to you.

I wish to be distinctly understood in
this matter. I solicit their attention from no ^{chh.}
And if you communicate with Mr E. I trust you will
write ^{carefully} & ^{whose hand} I shall never pledge myself to accept
a call from any people. ^{from} The ^{chh.} to which you allude
I see fit to present the subject in a definite & official manner
the time will have arrived to consider their particular
wants & claims. All that I have to say is, that there
is a probability that a removal might be effected if
a benefit of the kind & degree which is needed were
rendered certain.

None can reprobate more heartily
than I do the taking of a step by any minister of
which shall render it possible for the enemies of the
ministry to charge him with cupidity. It is indeed
high time that the frequent & palpable exhibitions of
self-denial on the part of Christ's authorized ministry
had given the lie to such accusations. But I cannot
be candid with you & present any other ostensible
reason for the contemplated removal than that
~~which arises from~~ my pecuniary circumstances.

Of Pine St Chh. I know just nothing.

pecuniary embarrassments.

This conclusion has cost me many struggles & has not been adopted without much prayer. Since I attended your ordination I have rejected one call & three applications of the same kind as that which has been presented through you. This was done under the impression that - all circumstances considered - pecuniary considerations should have no weight - or next to none. But after having tried many expedients, I am satisfied that I am making no advance in the way of paying my debts - but rather ^{am} multiplying them. I never desire a larger field of usefulness than I have at the present time - and I am sure that I shall never find a more affectionate church and people - and were it not for the disheartening recollection of my debts - whh, considering the pitance of last year as a specimen of my annual payments, it would require a decade of years to liquidate - I would never encourage the hopes of any other people in Christendom. But having already made such sacrifices for this people as I am unable longer to sustain, I believe my duty to the church of Christ as well as to my family

Feb 10. 1831

Dear Brother

It is indeed a long time since the reception of your last, and you have I doubt not often wondered at my silence — but you have wronged me if you have at any time accused me of negligence. I hope you will not forget that the subject you proposed for my consideration is very far from being unimportant. Let this fact be my apology. I have thought much about your question and have endeavoured also to seek its answer at the hand of the Lord. ~~The following~~ The conclusion which I have adopted is — that it will be my duty not to object to a removal to any place where the field of usefulness which I may be invited to occupy shall not be less extensive than that where I now am — provided that by so doing I can expedite my own delivery from